

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 84-41

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

BLUE MOUNTAIN CENTER OF MEDITATION, INC, TOMALES, MARIN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter called the Board), finds that:

1. Blue Mountain Center of Meditation (hereinafter discharger) owns and operates a domestic wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal pond system east of Tomales, Marin County.
2. The discharger presently collects, treats, and stores for evaporation 2100 gallons of wastewater per day (gpd) from 45 residents living in single and multi-unit dwellings; and from the chapel, school, dining hall, and other buildings. The treatment system has capacity for 60 residents. It has a design capacity of 4000 gpd.
3. The collected wastewater is received in a septic/holding tank having three chambers in series. Total volume is 5100 gallons. The tank has a 3325 gallon primary chamber, 1275 gallon secondary, and 700 gallon sump which contains the lift pump. The sump is pumped three times daily to two disposal ponds in series, several hundred feet away from the community. The ponds were not constructed with sealed bottoms. Percolation may be still occurring in that the ponds may not have had time to self-seal. The standby leachfield is downgrade from the sump. This provides emergency disposal during a power outage.
4. The system was professionally designed and installed in 1972. It is in good condition, well maintained, and properly operated. The system appears capable of handling proposed dry weather loading expansion up to the design limit.
5. During the past three years, infiltration/inflow has caused the second pond to overflow during the wet weather seasons. The peak wet weather flows were above the 4000 gpd design limit. The overflow spreads overland across a broad, shallow-sloping hayfield toward Keys Creek, one-third mile away. The prolific vegetative reaction to nutrients ends about 100 feet downgrade from the pond. There is no apparent impact on the creek. The Discharger plans to locate the source of the inflow problem and to the time schedule established in this Order.
6. The Board adopted a revised water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the San Francisco Bay Region on July 21, 1982. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for inland streams.

7. Keys Creek discharges to Walker Creek. The beneficial uses of Walker Creek are
 - a) Warm freshwater habitat
 - b) Cold freshwater habitat
 - c) Wildlife habitat
 - d) Preservation of rare and endangered species
 - e) Fish spawning
8. The Discharger has not previously filed for waste discharge requirements.
9. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated March 24, 1984.
10. This project involves the continued operation of a privately-owned sewage treatment and disposal system, with negligible effects on the environment. Pursuant to Section 15101, Title 14, California Administrative Code, the proposed use is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
11. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons have been notified of the Board's intent to issue requirements for waste discharge and have been provided with the opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
12. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Blue Mountain Community, pursuant to the provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code, and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Prohibitions

1. Overflow from the wastewater ponds is prohibited. There shall be no bypass or overflow of waste to waters of the State from the collection, treatment, or pond system.
2. Discharge of wastewater to any land other than the wastewater ponds is prohibited. Emergency discharge to the standby leachfield must be reported on the quarterly Self-Monitoring Report.
3. Wastewater ponding which could provide a breeding area for mosquitoes is prohibited.
4. The average wastewater flow to the ponds shall not exceed the design loading of 4000 gpd (monthly average).

B. Specifications

1. Ponds shall be protected against erosion, washout, and flooding from a flood having an predicted frequency of one in 100 years.
2. A minimum freeboard of two feet shall be maintained in all ponds at all times.

3. The discharge of waste shall not degrade the quality of any ground water suitable for domestic use or cause an increase in any quality parameter that would make ground water unsuitable for irrigation use.
4. The public shall be effectively excluded and notified of the presence wastewater in the evaporation ponds.

C. Provisions

1. The treatment or storage of waste shall not create a nuisance as defined in Section 13050(m) of the California Water Code.
2. The Discharger shall correct the collection system infiltration/inflow problem according to the following time schedule. If the I/I cannot be corrected within the wastewater collection system, then the discharger shall add a third pond to collect the seasonal overflow and store for evaporation.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
a. Technical report to the Board describing extent of problem and time schedule for correction.	August 15, 1984
b. Complete installation of I/I inspection manholes as specified in the technical report.	November 15, 1984
c. Submit report of necessary I/I repairs and/or third pond construction	April 15, 1985
d. Complete all necessary corrective work	November 15, 1985
3. By October 1 of each year, the Discharger shall submit a report to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer containing the depth of freeboard in each pond, and an assessment of the ability of the ponds to maintain the minimum freeboard in the ponds throughout the wet season with anticipated rains and waste inflow.	
4. By October 15, 1984 and prior to any expansion of the system, the Discharger shall submit a technical report satisfactory to the Executive Officer, documenting compliance with Specification B.3. The report shall include all available information on the evaporation ponds construction, geohydrology under the site, and groundwater quality. If it is determined that additional geotechnical and groundwater quality data is needed, then a time schedule for submitting the information shall be included in the report.	
5. In reviewing compliance with Prohibitions A.1, and A.2, and Specification B.2, the Board will take special note of the difficulties which may be encountered in achieving compliance during entire wet seasons having a rainfall recurrence interval greater than once in ten years.	

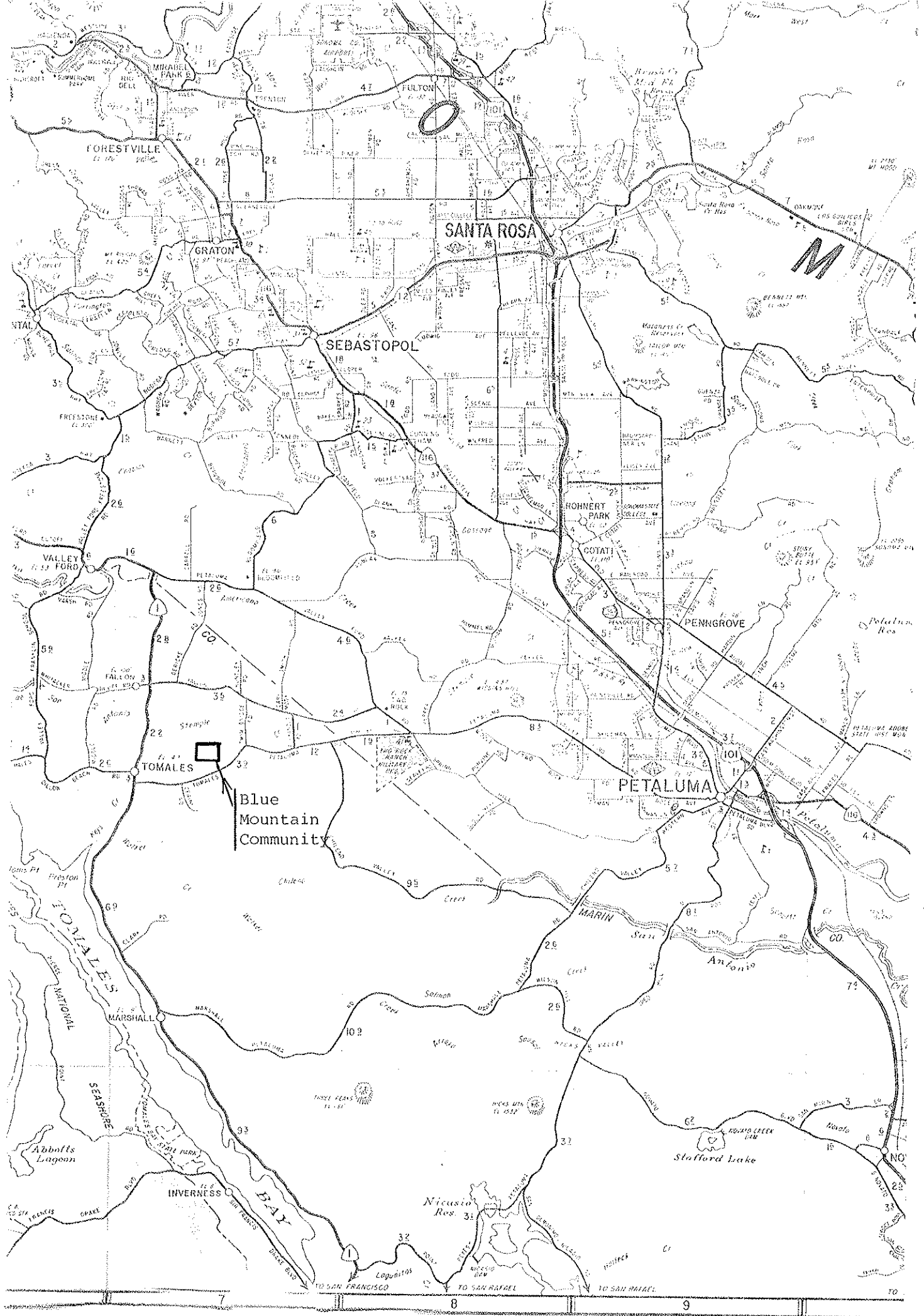
6. The Discharger shall comply with the Self-monitoring Program as ordered by the Executive Officer.
7. The Discharger shall maintain in good working order and operate, as efficiently as possible, any facility installed to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
8. When an approved public sanitary sewer is within 400 ft. of the ponds, the Discharger shall submit a technical report to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer and time schedule describing how the ponds will be abandoned and connection made to the sanitary sewer.
9. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to this Board.
10. The Discharger shall file with the Board a report on waste discharge at least 120 days before making any material change or proposed change in the character, location or volume of the discharge.
11. The Discharger shall permit the Board or its authorized representatives in accordance with California Water Code Section 13267(c):
 - a. Entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept.
 - b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of this Order.
 - c. Inspection of any monitoring equipment or method required by this Order.
 - d. Sampling of any stored or disposed wastewater.
12. The Board will review this Order periodically and may revise the requirements when necessary.

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region on July 18, 1984.

ROGER B. JAMES
Executive Officer

Dated _____

Attachment:
Map



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

T E N T A T I V E
SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM
FOR

Blue Mountain Center of Meditation Inc.

Tomales

Marin County

ORDER NO. 84-41

CONSISTS OF

PART A

PART A

I. GENERAL

Reporting responsibilities of waste dischargers are specified in Sections 13225(a), 13267(b), 13268, 13383, and 13387(b) of the California Water Code and this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16.

The principal purposes of a monitoring program by a waste discharger, also referred to as a self-monitoring program, are:

1. To document compliance with waste discharge requirements and prohibitions established by the Regional Board.
2. To facilitate self-policing by the waste discharger in the prevention and abatement of pollution arising from waste discharge.

II. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF SAMPLING, ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS

A. Influent to Pond

Monthly, determine average daily flow in gallons per day.

B. Evaporation Ponds

At any point on the surface of each pond, representative of the wastewater:

1. Bi-weekly June through October; and monthly, November through May: determine dissolved oxygen (D.O.) concentration, mg/l.
2. Weekly, determine pH.
3. Weekly, perform standard observation along perimeter of each pond:
 - a. Evidence of leaching liquid from area of confinement and estimated size of affected area. (Show affected area on sketch).
 - b. Odor: Presence or absence, characterization, source and distance of travel.
 - c. Estimated number of waterfowl and other water associated birds in the disposal area and vicinity.
 - d. Determine freeboard, in feet, for each pond.

C. Groundwater

The groundwater monitoring well located approximately 1000 feet downgradient of the ponds shall be monitored as specified below:

<u>Type of Sample and Frequency</u>	<u>Analyses</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Grab Sample Quarterly*	Water Level	Feet from known datum
	TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	mg/l
	TDS (Tot. Dissolv. Solids)	mg/l
	Coliform	MPN/100ml
	Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l
	Nitrate Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l
	Conductivity	micromhos/cm
	pH	electrometric

A well log, if available, shall be submitted for the existing well and any wells constructed in the future.

Three to five well volumes shall be pumped prior to taking any grab samples.

*Frequency to be changed to semi-annually if analyses are consistent and favorable.

III. REPORT TO BE FILED WITH THE REGIONAL BOARD

1. Violations of Requirements:

In the event the discharger is unable to comply with the conditions of the waste discharge requirements and prohibitions due to:

- (a) maintenance work, power failures, or breakdown waste treatment equipment, or
- (b) accidents caused by human error or negligence or,
- (c) other causes such as acts of nature,

the discharger shall notify the Regional Board office by telephone at (415) 464-1255 as soon as he or his agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within two weeks of the telephone notification. The written report shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the non-compliance and shall indicate what steps were taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

In addition, if non-compliance caused by items (a), (b) or (c), above is with respect to any of the effluent limits, the waste discharger shall promptly accelerate his monitoring program to analyze the discharge at least once every day for those constituents which have been violated. Such daily analyses shall continue until such time as the effluent limits have been attained, or until such time as the Executive Officer determines to be appropriate. The results of such monitoring shall be included in the regular Self-Monitoring Reports.

Bypass Reports

2. Bypass reporting shall be an integral part of regular monitoring program reporting and a report on bypassing of untreated waste or bypassing of any ponded water shall be made which will include cause, time and date, duration and estimated volume of waste bypassed, method used in eliminating volume, and persons (including Marin County Health) notified, for planned and/or unplanned bypasses. Notification to the Regional Board shall be made immediately by phone, followed by written correspondence within 15 days if a bypass occurs.

The discharger shall file a written technical report at least 15 days prior to advertising for bid on any construction project which would cause or aggravate the discharge of waste in violation of requirements; said report shall describe the nature, costs, and scheduling of all action necessary to preclude such discharge. In no case should any discharge of sewage-bearing wastes be permitted without at least primary treatment and chlorination.

3. Self-Monitoring Reports

Written reports shall be filed regularly for each calendar quarter and submitted by the fifteenth day of the following month. The reports shall be comprised of the following:

a. Letter of Transmittal:

A letter transmitting self-monitoring reports should accompany each report. Such a letter shall include a discussion of requirement violations found during the past month and actions taken or planned for correcting violations, such as plant operation modifications and/or plant facilities expansion. If the discharger has previously submitted a detailed time schedule for correcting requirement violations, a reference to the correspondence transmitting such schedule will be satisfactory. The letter shall contain a statement by the official, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of the signer's knowledge the report is true and correct.

b. Data Results

All results observed or analysed in II.A. and II.B.

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing Self-Monitoring Program:

1. Has been developed in accordance with the procedure set forth in this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16 in order to obtain data and document compliance with waste discharge requirements established in Regional Board Order No. 84- 41
2. Is effective on the date shown below.

3. May be reviewed at any time subsequent to the effective date upon written notice from the Executive Officer or request from the discharger and revisions will be ordered by the Executive Officer.

ROGER B. JAMES
Executive Officer

Effective Date _____